

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY PREPARATORY SCHOOL



CATALOG

THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

PREPARATORY SCHOOL

MISSION

This catalog is for those who are seeking detailed information about the Preparatory School, its curriculum and faculty. It is not a contract between the US Air Force Academy and any prospective cadet candidate. The curriculum, policies and dates are subject to change to meet the varying needs of the Air Force.

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Colonel Laurence A. Fariss

COMMANDER
USAF ACADEMY
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

successful completion of the Academy.

Students at the Prep School come from three sources: Regular airmen who are on active duty, airmen who are part of the Reserve component, and civilian high school graduates. All students are enlisted into the Air Force and placed on active duty to attend the Prep School. Approximately 240 students between 17 and 22 years old begin the 10-month program in late July. The Prep School's curriculum emphasizes the same four areas as the Academy--academic, military, athletic, and character development. The academic program includes three subject areas: English, mathematics, and basic sciences. It begins with a review of high school and rapidly expands to cover the equivalent of a college year of study in these areas. Additionally, students participate in military training, physical conditioning/athletics, and character development.

To earn an appointment to the Academy, students must complete the Prep School, must meet Academy entrance requirements, and must be selected by the Academy Board. Awaiting those who are offered Academy appointments are superior professional leadership training, an outstanding academic education, and preparation to be a highly successful career officer in the Air Force.

This catalog contains information about the Prep School program and Academy admission requirements. Please don't hesitate to call us if you desire additional information. Good luck in your future career--we hope it includes the Air Force.

COMMANDER'S FOREWARD

The USAF Academy Preparatory School provides a special opportunity for selected young men and women to earn an appointment to the Air Force Academy. Completion of the Prep School's challenging curriculum will increase the student's potential for admission to the Academy and for

CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Students who accept the offer of an appointment to the Prep School will receive a letter from the Prep School Commander advising them of reporting dates. The letter also contains instructions concerning travel and items to bring.

All appointed candidates will receive information packages detailing the amount of money they should bring with them to cover initial expenses. Much of the equipment required for their schooling will be furnished by the government. However, there will be some expenses (e.g., athletic clothing, textbooks, test fees, activity fees, yearbook fees, and miscellaneous personal items) for which students will be responsible. Appointees are required to sign a statement agreeing to pay for these items. All appointees enter the Prep School with a military rank. Prior-enlisted candidates will be paid in accordance with their current rank; all others will be paid at the rate of an Academy cadet. All are subject to the UCMJ.

Students must reapply for appointment to the Air Force Academy. To ease this process, students will be advised of nomination procedures before they arrive. Students will be informed of other Academy admissions requirements throughout the year.

Because of the nonavailability of parking, financial liability, and the highly demanding schedule at the Prep School, students are not permitted to have automobiles. Cars may be rented for off-duty time if desired.

Students may bring some civilian clothing--both summer and winter--for wear during off-duty privileges. They may bring a small radio. Students are not allowed to bring large electronic equipment or any type of television set, or a cellular phone. Televisions are provided in dormitory

lounges, but are not permitted in the rooms.

The entire Prep School program is highly challenging and requires consistent effort across four areas of emphasis--academics, military, athletics, and character development.

CADET CANDIDATE ACTIVITIES

Typical Day

The typical day in a cadet candidate's life is challenging. Students attend academic classes, receive military training, participate in individual and team sports, and study about four hours a day. In addition, they must fit in all the normal activities of life: eating, sleeping, cleaning their rooms and dorms, washing clothes, etc. Students must learn to plan their time and organize their efforts in order to successfully complete each day's activities.

Typical Daily Schedule

6:00 AM	Wake Up
6:15 - 6:50	Breakfast
6:00 - 7:50	Military Time
8:00 -8:50	1 st Period Class
8:55 -9:45	2 nd Period Class
9:50-10:40	3 rd Period Class
10:50-11:40	4 th Period Class
11:45-12:25	Lunch
12:30- 1:20	5 th Period Class
1:30- 2:30	Extra Instruction
2:30- 5:00	Athletics
5:00- 5:30	Shared time as needed
5:30- 6:15	Dinner
6:15 – 7:00	Military Time
7:00-10:00	Academic Study Time
10:00 PM	Lights Out

Leaves and Passes

Cadet candidates may take leave (vacation) during Thanksgiving, winter holidays, and spring break. Proficient students may receive passes to depart from the Prep School grounds on many weekends. As long as students perform satisfactorily in all phases of their instruction, they may continue to receive such privileges.

On the other hand, a student who has academic, military, or other deficiencies may be restricted to the school area on weekends. The Commander will determine when students may wear civilian clothing off duty or off base. Although students cannot maintain possession of privately owned vehicles, they are permitted to arrange auto rentals.

After graduation, cadet candidates who are selected to enter the Academy will have approximately 30 days without duty from the time they graduate from the Prep School in late May until the cadet class reports. Upon entering the Air Force Academy, cadet candidates will be relieved from active duty and readmitted as cadets.

Religious Activities

Cadet candidates are encouraged, but not required, to attend Protestant or Catholic services conducted by base chaplains in the Community Center Chapel and Jewish services which are held at the Cadet Chapel. Students are also permitted to attend other religious services at churches in the local community. Chaplains of all major faiths are available for counseling.

Extracurricular Activities

A number of recreational facilities are available to cadet candidates during off-duty time. Available in the local area are a bowling alley, hobby shops, library and recreation center. The Academy sponsors many recreational events through an active special services program. These events include Prep School home and away varsity games, Academy athletic competitions, ski trips, banquets, and special activities. Cadet candidates may also participate in Prep School yearbook preparation or special class events.

The Academy has a number of recreational facilities which are open to cadet candidates during the weekends, including swimming pools, outdoor courts, and golf courses. The Academy area consists of some 18,000 acres of land located in the foothills of the Rampart Range of the Rocky Mountains. There are many open areas that are suitable for hiking, backpacking, and other outdoor activities. Mountain stream and lake fishing can be enjoyed on the Academy as well as many other places nearby. Riding stables are only a short walk from the Prep School, and the riding area is one of the most beautiful in the region.

Local Area Activities

The Prep School is in proximity to Colorado Springs and 50 miles south of Denver. Airports in each city provide easy travel to any place in the nation. Local restaurants, night spots, movies, and shopping centers offer plenty to do during off-duty time. Denver, the metropolitan

city of the Rocky Mountain region, is the center for major league sports, cultural expositions, and various types of entertainment. Denver is the access city to many Colorado ski resorts such as Vail, Aspen, Keystone, Breckenridge, Monarch Pass, and Copper Mountain. Many students arrange their own weekend ski trips or go with base-organized weekend trips.

Colorado Springs--just south of the U.S. Air Force Academy--is a beautiful city located at the foot of the renowned Pikes Peak, which rises over 14,000 feet. Scenic areas abound throughout the city and the mountain foothills. Colorado Springs, with a population of over 300,000, is also the home of the famous Broadmoor Hotel and the site of the Olympic Training Center, which attracts athletes from throughout the country.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Military Personnel

Appointments to the Air Force Academy are available for qualified enlisted members of the Air Force Regular, Guard, and Reserve components.

Air Force personnel, 17 to 22 years of age, who want to attend the Prep School prior to entering the Academy should take the following steps:

Visit the Base Education Office and read AFI 36-2021, "Air Force Academy Preparatory School." Ask for Air Force Form 1786, the application for a nomination to the Academy and an appointment to the Prep School. Complete the form and give it to your unit commander. The Form 1786 and a letter of recommendation must be forwarded by the unit commander to arrive at the Cadet Admissions Office by 31 January. If your base does not have the information available, contact the Academy Admissions' office at DSN 333-2520.

Complete the Precandidate Questionnaire (PCQ) which the Cadet Admissions Office at

the Academy will send when the application is received. Airmen meeting the minimum requirements based on an evaluation of their PCQ, receive a candidate kit and information on further processing requirements from the Cadet Admissions Office.

Write to the high school last attended and request a copy of high school transcripts be sent to the Director of Admissions, USAF Academy CO 80840-2200. Also request transcripts from any preparatory school or college attended.

Take either the College Board Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) or the test from American College Testing (ACT) Assessment Program.

Military personnel selected for admission to the Prep School will be notified when to report. Selection is based on academic records, extracurricular activities, military performance, and medical examination.

If appointed, airmen must agree to extend their enlistment prior to enrollment if it will expire before 1 July of the year they will enter the Academy. Airmen will be assigned to the Prep School in their current grade.

Members of the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps are not eligible to apply for the Academy nomination under the Air Force Regular and Reserve categories. Members of these services who want to enter the Air Force Academy or the Prep School may apply for a nomination from a member of Congress. Details of application and eligibility are outlined in AFI 36-2021, "Air Force Academy Preparatory School," which is available to all services.

Civilian Candidates

Admission to the Prep School from civilian life is normally limited to those individuals who obtained a nomination to the Air Force Academy during the current year but were not selected for appointment. Candidates selected are primarily those whose records indicate that they have the potential for the Academy but need additional academic preparation to improve their chances for admission. The candidates who are offered Prep School appointments by the Academy will normally be notified during May and June. Individuals are not eligible for admission to the Prep School unless they receive an offer from the Academy Admissions Office.

When admitted to the Prep School, civilian candidates will become basic airmen in the Air Force Reserve. An airman who is disenrolled from the Prep School will be discharged from the Reserve with no further service obligation to the Air Force.

Academy Admission

All cadet candidates re-compete for an appointment to the Academy. Students are required to compete under all nominating categories for which they are eligible, including Congressional. Additionally, students take the following Academy entrance examinations while at the Prep School: medical exam, the candidate fitness test, and admissions exams (SAT and ACT). There is no minimum achievement which will guarantee cadet candidates an appointment to the Academy, but historically over 75% of those who enter the Prep School earn an appointment. That percentage is significantly higher than other nomination categories.

ACHIEVING SUCCESS

Academic Requirements

The Prep School is not like high school. The material goes beyond the high school level; the standards are high, the grading is tough, and the pace is fast. Finals are given at the end of each of six grading periods, and a normal week may include up to eight timed quizzes or major exams.

Every course requires daily homework, and the average student spends four-to-five hours per day studying on Sunday through Thursday, plus three-to-six hours during the weekend. TV is off limits during study hours, and the dormitories are maintained in a quiet but relaxed atmosphere. In such an academic environment, all cadet candidates must realize that they are students first and other interests are secondary.

The Prep School is geared to the best interests of the student. Each academic department is dedicated to helping students succeed academically. Instructors are available upon request to provide extra instruction, both during specified class periods and by appointment. If students are having difficulty in any subject area, problems are identified early enough for students to seek additional instruction.

Courses taken at the Prep School are normally not transferable for college credits, although former students may request a copy of their student transcript at any time after their departure.



Graduation Requirements

To successfully complete the Prep School program, a student must meet the following requirements:

- (1) Demonstrate an aptitude for commissioned service and leadership.
- (2) Exhibit satisfactory conduct and personal integrity.
- (3) Meet the physical requirements.
- (4) Meet the academic grade-point average (GPA) requirements: a 2.42 composite academic GPA at the Prep School. This minimum GPA is subject to change.

Appointment Requirements

Appointment to the Air Force Academy is a highly competitive process. To be competitive for an appointment after completing the Prep School requires the following:

- (1) Meet all Prep School graduation requirements.
- (2) Obtain suggested standards for ACT or SAT scores. The current guidelines are: ACT: English-24, Math-25, Reading-24, Science Reasoning-25; and/or SAT: Mathematics-560, Verbal-580 on the recentered scale.
- (3) Pass the Candidate Fitness Test.

(4) Demonstrate an aptitude for success at the Academy.

(5) Be recommended by the Prep School Commander.

(6) Be approved by the Academy Board.

Candidate Separation

Failure to maintain certain standards can result in disenrollment from the Prep School at any time during the year. Approximately 75% of the students who enter the Prep School complete the requirements, graduate, and are offered appointments to the Academy.

The Commander of the Preparatory School may disenroll a cadet candidate at any time if one of the following conditions exists:

(1) Failure to maintain academic, physical fitness, or military standards.

(2) Failure to meet medical requirements.

(3) Unsatisfactory conduct.

(4) Retention is not considered to be in the best interest of the Air Force.

(5) Lack of desire for an Academy appointment.

(6) Failure to maintain basic eligibility for an appointment.

Disenrollment from the Prep School for any of these reasons will result in withdrawal of candidacy for the Academy. A cadet candidate who entered from active duty and who is eliminated from the school or fails to obtain an Academy appointment will be made available for immediate reassignment. A civilian disenrolled from the school will be discharged from the Air Force.

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Regular Airman Information

Regular airmen may find the following information useful as a new or prospective cadet candidate at the USAF Academy Preparatory School.

1. Regular airmen retain their rank and are paid accordingly while attending the Prep School; however, grade insignia must be removed from all uniforms while attending the Prep School. Specially designed shoulder boards will be worn by all students. Regular airmen are considered for promotion, through the grade of E-4, the same as in the Regular Air Force, except the Prep School does not permit below-the-zone promotion to the grade of E-4.

2. Regular airmen in grades lower than E-4 will be considered for promotion in the normal manner.

3. Regular airmen who disenroll from the Prep School program are sent to the local MPF Outbound Assignments Section where they may forecast for a base of their choice. However, the needs of the Air Force will determine re-assignment actions. It normally takes MPF four-to-six weeks to obtain an assignment after a regular airman disenrolls. Regular airmen are normally returned to duty in their primary AFSC. Regular airmen who were in the middle of a technical school prior to coming to the Prep School normally are not returned to the technical school. They are usually retrained into a new AFSC at their next duty station, but this is not an absolute rule. Regular airmen cannot obtain information such as next duty assignment, AFSC, until they disenroll from the Prep School program. However, they may inquire at MPF as to whether their AFSC is under- or over-manned Air Force wide.

4. Regular airmen who enter the Cadet Wing are released from active duty. Time spent in the Cadet Wing counts for pay and retirement purposes only if regular airmen revert back to enlisted status before they

finish four years at the Academy. Example: an airman enters the Cadet Wing after having served two years of a four-year enlistment. The airman disenrolls from the Cadet Wing after spending two years at the Academy. The airman has no further obligation to return to active duty. If the airman should again enlist in the Air Force, the two years spent in the Cadet Wing will have counted the same as active duty time and the member will be enlisting with over four years of service.

5. Regular airmen disenrolled from the Cadet Wing will be returned to active duty if they still have over six months remaining on their enlistment contract. Example: with two years active duty prior to entering the Cadet Wing, an airman serves one year in the Cadet Wing before disenrolling. If the airman had signed a four-year enlistment contract, the member would be required to return to active duty for one more year. If an airman had six months or less on his/her contract at the time of disenrollment from the Cadet Wing, he/she may be separated from the Air Force.

6. Regular airmen are required to complete about two weeks of Prep School basic training along with reserve airmen.

7. There are no special privileges for Regular airmen while attending the Prep School. All students are treated equally.

8. Regular airmen must bring their complete military clothing issue. Any uniform not serviceable must be replaced at the individual's expense immediately upon arrival.

Reserve Airman Information (Civilian Candidates)

When admitted to the Prep School, civilian candidates will become basic airmen in the Air Force Reserve. Reserve airmen may find the following information useful as a new or prospective student at the USAF Academy Preparatory School.

1. Reserve airmen who attend the Prep School are called to active duty for the period of time necessary to complete the Prep School program. For retirement purposes, this active duty time is counted the same as if they enlisted in the regular Air Force. A reserve airman called to active duty to attend the Prep School is not considered a regular airman.

2. Reserve airmen will receive a designated rate of pay as determined by Congress (same amount as any Academy cadet).

3. Reserve airmen who disenroll from the Preparatory School are discharged from the United States Air Force with no obligation to serve in the inactive Reserves.

4. Reserve airmen receive an issue of military clothing upon arrival at the Preparatory School. Any lost or damaged clothing items must be replaced at their own expense.



CURRICULUM

Rather than a traditional semester or quarter, the Prep School divides the year into six grading periods, each approximately six weeks long, called Fall-1, Fall-2, Fall-3, Spring-1, Spring-2, and Spring-3, with the first three periods occurring before the winter holidays.

The usual pattern is one 45-minute period every day for each course. Ten minutes are allowed for changing classes. You'll take one English class, one science class, and two math classes each day of the week. Each individual course syllabus shows the number and dates of lessons, announced examinations, homework, and point breakdown.

Study Skills. To aid the transition to the demanding requirements of college academics all students are enrolled in a Study Skills class during the first academic term. The course is designed to introduce students to study concepts and techniques which are necessary for success. Course topics include: time management, goal setting, how to study, note taking, how to prepare for and take tests, etc.

DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE

The Science Program

The mission of the Prep School science program is to provide educational experience, study skills and problem-solving techniques that will best ensure student success, not only during the USAFA's first year science curriculum, but during the entire four-year program at the Air Force Academy. This is accomplished through a curriculum that is based on teaching study and problem-solving skills using computer science, chemistry, physics, and interrelated disciplines.

Course Descriptions

Sci 321. Computer Science I. This course is an introduction to personal computers, an important tool used at the Air Force Academy. Main topics include the use of word processing, spreadsheet, and graphic presentation applications. Specific software covered reflects applications in current use by the Air Force Academy.

Sci 331-332-333. Chemistry I-II-III.

These courses introduce chemistry with continued emphasis on the use of study skills and problem solving techniques. They are designed to increase students' basic skills in chemistry. Topics range from basic stoichiometry to nuclear chemistry.

Sci 341-342. Physics I-II. The courses introduce physics with continued emphasis on study skills and problem solving techniques and strategies. Topics range from basic mechanics to modern physics.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

The English Program

The mission of the Preparatory School English Department is to teach cadet candidates to read, think, write, speak, and listen effectively at the collegiate level. All students begin the year with a writing review, and from this module the foundation is set for subsequent courses in the curriculum.

Course Descriptions

Eng 311. English I. This course will reacquaint students with the fundamentals of writing; i.e., the writing process, essay structure, editing, and writing strategies. The course will expose students to well-written essays and will challenge them to build on what they already know, to express their own thoughts, ideas, and feelings; this challenge can become the substance of good essays.

Eng 321. English II. This course is a continuation of English 311, English I. However, this course focuses more on revision of thoughts into more concise essays. In this course, the student will be introduced to the novel.

Eng 341. English III. This course continues the fundamentals of writing introduced in English 311 and English 312 and introduces the student to argument/persuasion.

Eng 314. English IV. This course continues argumentative strategies. It presents the concepts of inductive and deductive reasoning. Two essays based on the theories and concepts of argumentation will be written.

Eng 351. English V. Research. This course brings together the writing skills and the strategies learned so far during the academic year. The focus of the course will

be on the construction and presentation of a research paper. The course includes a review of research methodology with an emphasis on Modern Language Association documentation and will culminate in a major research paper on a topic of the student's choosing.

Eng 361. English VI. This course will give students an appreciation of different forms of literature and will introduce them to the type of critical thinking associated with college writing. Students will write analytical papers based on assigned readings in literature, outside materials, and personal experience and observations.

Reading. Upon entry, each student will take a standardized reading test. A special reading course has been established to give personalized attention to those testing below the post-high school level.

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

The Mathematics Program

The mission of the Prep School mathematics program is to prepare cadet candidates to succeed in first-year Academy mathematics and technical courses, and to provide a solid mathematics background for students to build on during all four years at the Academy. The mathematics curriculum provides intense instruction in a spectrum of mathematics topics, including algebra, geometry, trigonometry, applications in science and engineering, and calculus.

Course Descriptions

The Math 10x and 20x series follow the same pace, but differ in the amount of skill coverage (more in Math 10x) and problem-solving (more in Math 20x).

Math 101 and 201. Covers basic arithmetic, exponents, polynomials, factoring, solving linear equations and inequalities, fractional expressions, radical notation, absolute value, and dimension symbols.

Math 102 and 202. Functions are introduced, and focus is given to linear function and their applications.

Math 103 and 203. Exponential and logarithmic functions are introduced, followed by the art of transforming functions through shifts, reflections, compressions, and stretches. The effect of these transformations on the formulas for basic algebraic and transcendental functions is analyzed.

Math 104 and 204. The study of algebra concludes with function composition and inverse functions. The course includes polynomial and rational inequalities, graphs of polynomial and power functions, and the

inverse relationship of exponentials and logarithms.

The Math 12x and 22x series differ mainly in pace rather than depth of coverage.

Math 120 and 220. The geometry portion of this course covers lines, angles and triangles, circles, and areas of complex objects. Trigonometry begins with a look at the trigonometric ratios, the sine, cosine, and other basic functions, the unit circle, formulations of the general sine function, solving trig equations, and inverse trig functions. In Math 220, trig identities are covered, while this topic is also covered in Math 121.

Math 121. The study of trigonometry concludes as a separate treatment with a study of trigonometric identities and applications. The course then begins laying the groundwork for understanding the concept of limit and introduces the derivative as the limit of a quotient. Properties of limits are explored and elementary derivatives are introduced.

Math 221. This course begins with more trig equation solving, a field exercise using surveying equipment as an application of trigonometry, and then begins the study of calculus. Calculus topics include limits, the formal definition of the derivative, tangent lines and rates of change, and the basic rules of differentiation including the product, quotient, higher order, and chain rules, and implicit differentiation.

The Math 13x and 23x series are the calculus courses, in which the 13x courses take the cadet candidate through a typical Differential Calculus Course. In the 23x series, the advanced cadet candidate gets exposure to both differential and integral calculus. The best students will learn enough to have a chance to validate both

core calculus courses offered at USAFA, subject to performance on their placement exams, and most will be skilled enough to validate the first USAFA course.

Math 131. This course begins with an introduction to limits, evaluating limits, the concept of continuity and one-sided limits, and infinite limits. From this foundation the student moves into differentiation. Topics covered in this portion of the course include the derivative and the tangent line problem, basic differentiation rules and rates of change, and the product, quotient, and higher-order derivative rules.

Math 132. This course completes the study of rules for differentiation and begins the application of derivatives for problem solving. Topics include: the chain rule and implicit differentiation, related rates problems, and the application of differentiation as a curve sketching technique to determine extrema on an interval, increasing and decreasing functions, and concavity.

Math 133. This course completes the study of differential calculus and provides an introduction to integral calculus. The final topics covered in differential calculus include a summary of curve sketching, limits at infinity, optimization problems, Newton's methods, and differentials. Under integral calculus, the antiderivative, indefinite and definite integrals, and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus conclude this course.

Math 134. This is a "year in review" course, with the purpose of refreshing the students' memory of and skill at geometry, trigonometry, and calculus covered in the previous four terms. One or two general topics are also introduced.

Math 231. Picking up where Math 221 leaves off, this course begins with related rates as an application of implicit

differentiation and the chain rule. Integral calculus then begins with a study of Riemann sums and applying a limit to formally define the definite integral. Antiderivatives are next introduced, leading to a discussion of the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus, and applications of the Mean Value Theorem for Integrals.

Math 232. This is an integration skills course, with special emphasis on substitution methods, integration by parts, integration of exponential and logarithmic forms, and some application problems requiring the employment of these techniques.

Math 233. This course is devoted to the study of applications of the integral to solving a variety of volume, arc length, and other problems where integration is the tool of choice. Problem set-up is emphasized, and solution by calculator is encouraged. Limits at infinity, including the use of L'Hopital's Rule are also covered.

Math 234. A few advanced topics are covered in this final calculus course. They include parametric representations of functions and their derivatives, applied to 2-dimensional motion problems, reinforcing topics covered in physics. Also addressed are polar coordinates and the areas of objects defined in a polar coordinate system. The last three weeks are a review of the year's most important topics, taught by the students themselves under the guidance of their instructor.

The last courses listed are specialty courses that the Preparatory School has found especially beneficial to the cadet candidates.

Math 141 and 241. This course allows students to combine and apply the concepts learned in previous courses of algebra, geometry, trigonometry, and physics. It is an introduction to static problems in classical physics and mechanics (without calculus). Topics include vectors, fundamental units,

forces, moments, and conditions of equilibrium. The course equates to college Newtonian physics and basic engineering mechanics in statics.

Math 151 and 251. This course serves as an introduction to Mathematica™, a computer algebra system used by the Mathematical Sciences Department at USAFA. Skills in plotting, solving equations, computing sums, derivatives, and integrals are taught. Team projects requiring the use of Mathematica are assigned which apply the mathematics learned during the year to realistic problems. Some elementary programming is also introduced as part of a discussion of algorithms.



DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS



The Athletic Department at the Prep School is designed to prepare cadet candidates for the rigors of athletic competition and physical conditioning required of all Academy cadets. Because we feel that fitness plays an integral part in the development of cadet candidates, it is important that students begin to integrate an exercise routine into their daily schedule prior to arrival. Recommended exercises include sit-ups, push-ups, pull-ups, and any other exercises which emphasize upper-body strength and endurance. Distance running is recommended, gradually working up to three miles a day as a minimum. In addition, sprint/interval training should also be incorporated into your preparation. Be aware that the Prep School is located at about 7000 feet above sea level, and the endurance requirements at this altitude may be greater than those to which some people are accustomed. The Prep School athletic program is comprised of four main areas--physical conditioning, intramural events, varsity athletics, and a student athlete program. Each student will be involved in one of these areas at all times during the school year.

Physical conditioning and intramural events start during Basic Military Training (BMT) and continue until graduation. These

programs consist of physical conditioning, running, and team competition.

The intramural program allows for team competition, offering a variety of team events to include soccer, volleyball, swimming, racquetball, walleyball, flag football, and softball. At the end of BMT each cadet candidate will take a Candidate Fitness Test (CFT), which includes pull-ups, sit-ups, push-ups, and a 300-yard shuttle run, which the student must eventually pass to be accepted into the Air Force Academy.

Varsity athletic teams at the Prep School compete with universities, state colleges, junior varsity teams, and top rated junior college teams. Our varsity athletic teams include football, men's and women's basketball, and women's volleyball.

The student athlete program is for student athletes to practice and improve their skills in a particular sport where no varsity team exists at the Prep School, or during the off-season of a Prep School varsity sport. Varsity sports that do not exist at the Prep School include hockey, baseball, track, cross country, swimming, diving, water polo, gymnastics, tennis, golf, soccer, and lacrosse.

As the school year progresses, the emphasis shifts toward helping students focus on specific fitness areas so that they may enter the Cadet Wing, meeting the fitness standards required for appointment. A personalized program and close supervision are two ways we will help students reach their conditioning goals.



The Prep School Athletic Department's philosophy is based on the belief that athletics should be enjoyable, and coaches try to make sports a learning and a stimulating experience. The coaches are genuinely interested in the student as a person and a player. They believe that athletics should be based on teamwork, effort, discipline, and sportsmanship.

Athletic facilities at the Air Force Academy are second to none, and Prep School athletes utilize many of these in their training and competitions. Athletic trainers are available to attend to any injuries which might occur and later assist with rehabilitation. There is also an orthopedic surgeon on call, and the on-site athletic trainer provides up-to-date medical treatments with the most modern equipment available. Students needing a physician's attention are taken to one of two facilities located on base--the USAFA Hospital or the Cadet Clinic.



DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY TRAINING

Military training is a part of everyday life at the Prep School. This training is designed to prepare cadet candidates for the military programs at the Academy. Through this training, students develop initiative, a sense of responsibility, leadership, and management skills. Failure to satisfactorily complete the military training program can result in disenrollment from the Prep School.

Basic Military Training

Basic Military Training (BMT) takes place during the first two weeks at the Prep School. During BMT, cadet candidates receive their basic indoctrination to the military. This includes information on the organization of the Air Force, military customs and courtesies, drill and ceremonies, Air Force Academy history, Core Values, the Honor Code, and proper wear of the uniform.

Throughout the year, cadet candidates undergo uniform, personal appearance, and room inspections on a regular basis, and marching to meals is a way of life. Students are graded on their marching proficiency through participation in military parades. They also attend military training classes throughout the academic year. Cadet candidates receive a military grade based on military bearing and overall performance.

The last few days before graduation are spent in a Teamwork Exercise (TX). Cadet candidates reinforce the importance of teamwork while competing in physically challenging events. TX also gives insight into what is expected as an Academy cadet during Basic Cadet Training.

Leadership/Followership Training

The Prep School student body is led by cadet candidates under the direction of the Department of Military Training. This department includes highly qualified Air Force officers and non-commissioned officers (NCOs).

The student body is organized into a Cadet Candidate Group to provide practical leadership experience at the group, squadron, and flight levels. All students compete for the opportunity to perform in leadership positions. Cadet candidates in command positions are responsible for the discipline, supervision, and welfare of their classmates.

This training helps prepare all cadet candidates for the Academy; however, the Prep School does not attempt to parallel the fourth class military system of the Air Force Academy Cadet Wing.

CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

Character development is the process that builds and reinforces the traits that form a cadet candidate's commitment to personal excellence and produces quality officers to lead the Air Force. The minimum standards of ethical behavior are encompassed in the Air Force Academy's Core Values: Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence in All We Do. Since Core Value education is woven throughout all aspects of the cadet candidates' lives, students are expected to internalize varied aspects of the Core Values by the time they enter the Academy as freshmen. The overall strategy for the Preparatory School reflects that we will "Promote readiness for and growth towards the Academy's Character Development Outcomes."

Implementation of this program is through a yearlong comprehensive process. The Honor Code, human relations, and spiritual development are important aspects of this program. All cadet candidates must accept the Honor Code when entering the Preparatory School; the Honor Code states, "We will not lie, steal, or cheat, nor tolerate among us anyone who does." Students must also live by principles of character that extend beyond the Honor Code. Character development training starts during BMT and continues throughout the entire year. Cadet candidates also have the opportunity to participate in community service projects, honor and ethics symposiums, and distinguished visitor testimonials, as part of the continuous character development process.

CLOSING

This catalog provides information about the Air Force Academy Preparatory School. If you desire more information about the Preparatory School, please contact us at:

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